

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health



www.victoria.ac.nz/nmh/



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

2013

HLTH 501: Principles of Research

30 points

Trimester 2

Course Coordinator: Dr Joan Skinner

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health at Victoria University of Wellington, uses all reasonable skill and care in an effort to ensure the information and course content information contained in this outline is accurate at the time of going to print.

Students should be aware, however, that in the event course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

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SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION	4
COURSE COORDINATOR & CONTACT DETAILS	4
POSTGRADUATE STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR	4
POSTAL ADDRESS	4
PHYSICAL ADDRESS	4
OFFICE HOURS	4
SCHOOL TIMETABLE	5
SECTION 2: ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	6
COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	6
COURSE PRESCRIPTION	6
COURSE CONTENT	6
COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES	6
TEACHING FORMAT	6
NURSING COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND NURSE PRACTITIONER COMPETENCIES THIS COURSE MEETS (NCNZ 2008)	7
MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS	7
EXPECTED WORKLOAD	7
WITHDRAWAL DATES	7
STUDENT FEEDBACK	7
RECOMMENDED READINGS/TEXTS	8
PRE-READINGS	9
RECOMMENDED WEBSITES	9
TEXT BOOK PURCHASE	9
BLACKBOARD INFORMATION	10
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION	11
ASSIGNMENT NUMBER ONE	12
ASSIGNMENT NUMBER TWO	13
ASSIGNMENT NUMBER THREE	14

Section 1: Operational Information

COURSE COORDINATOR & CONTACT DETAILS

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Wellington 6021

OFFICE HOURS

The Graduate School office will be open Monday 7 January 2013 and close on Friday 20 December 2013 from 9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays.

In keeping with the practice of other years, academic staff will not be available on Fridays, except for the times they are involved in Schools. Please contact the course coordinator directly either by telephone or email should you wish to make an appointment or discuss course related issues.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

1st SCHOOL

Dates: Wednesday 17 – Friday 19 July 2013

Times: 9am – 5pm daily

Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building, Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

2ND SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 16 – Wednesday 18 September 2013

Times: 9am – 5pm daily

Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building, Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

Section 2: Academic Requirements

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All course information and information on changes that occur during the course will be conveyed to students via Blackboard or student Victoria University of Wellington email.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

Focuses on the research process, research concepts and the location implementation and critique of research in practice.

COURSE CONTENT

- On being a student: Adult learning, computer skills, academic integrity, referencing, scholarship, information literacy
- Defining research as a way of knowing
- Research questions and research design
- Research appraisal and utilisation.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the research process
2. Appraise evidence in relation to health related issues
3. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of different research approaches applicable to the health disciplines.

TEACHING FORMAT

This course is delivered in two blocks over one trimester at the Graduate School of Nursing Midwifery & Health. The days will be a mix of lectures and small group activities. A distance component supported by Blackboard forms part of the course and supports student achieving their learning objectives.

As co-ordinator I am open to suggestions from you as to specific topics that you may find helpful. If given enough notice it is usually, but not always, possible to meet requests.

NURSING COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND NURSE PRACTITIONER COMPETENCIES THIS COURSE MEETS (NCNZ 2008)

- 1.3 Demonstrates nursing leadership that positively influences the health outcomes of client/population group and the profession of nursing.
- 2.4 Demonstrates confident and independent practice that is based on the synthesis of theory and practice knowledge from nursing and other disciplines.
- 3.2 Contributes to clinical collaboration that optimises health outcomes for the client
- 3.3 Actively involved in quality assurance activities that monitor and improve the quality of health care and the effectiveness of own practice.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to successfully complete this course you are required to attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course coordinator.

Students must complete all pieces of assessment to pass the course. Lectures, tutorials, electronic and other distance learning resources, practical and fieldwork may all be an integral part of the learning experience and participation in such activities is regarded as necessary.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

As a guide each 30-point course at the Graduate School requires students to allocate approximately 10 hours per point for self-directed study, research, assessments and attendance at Schools. Consequently 300 hours should be spread evenly over the 12 week trimester, break, study week and exam period.

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Apart from updating content, this course has had no major changes in format. Students in the first trimester 2013 reported that they did not feel supported through feedback. They did not receive feedback on the second assignment until after the second school so the date of this assignment has been changed to meet this need. The evaluations demonstrated a high level of students agreeing that the course encouraged them to think critically.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at:

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

RECOMMENDED READINGS/TEXTS

It is strongly recommended that you purchase a textbook. There are many textbooks written as an introduction to research for health professionals. You should choose a textbook that suits your needs. The following is an indicative list of some texts that may prove helpful for this course:

- Brown, S. (2009). *Evidence-based nursing: The research-practice connection*. Boston: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.
- Bryman, A. (Ed.). (2007). *Qualitative research two*. London: Sage.
- Bryman, A. (Ed.). (2006). *Mixed methods*. London: Sage.
- Bryman, A. (2008). *Social research methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Clegg, F. (2001). *Simple statistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Cluett, E. R., & Bluff, R. (2006). *Principles and practice of research in midwifery* (2nd ed.). New York: Bailliere Tindall.
- Cullum, N., Ciliska, D., Haynes, B., & Marks, S. (2008). *Evidence-based nursing: An introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Creswell J. W. (2009). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (3rd ed.). London: Sage.
- Denscombe, M. (2010). *The good research guide: For small-scale social research projects* (4th ed.). Maidenhead, England: Open University.
- Denzin N. K., & Lincoln Y. S. (Eds.). (2003). *Strategies of qualitative inquiry* (2nd ed.). London: Sage.
- DiCenso, A., Guyatt, G., & Ciliska, D. (2005). *Evidence-based nursing: A guide to clinical practice*. St. Louis, Mo: Elsevier Mosby.
- Field, A. (2009). *Discovering statistics using SPSS*. Sage: London.
- Gillis, A. A., & Jackson, W. (2002). *Research for nurses: Methods and interpretation*. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis.
- Greenhalgh, T. (2001). *How to read a paper: The basics of evidence-based medicine* (2nd ed.). London: BMJ: Publishing Group.
- Hart C. (1998). *Doing a literature review: Releasing the social science research imagination*. London: Sage.
- Hart C. (2001). *Doing a literature search: A comprehensive guide for the social sciences*. London: Sage.
- Kumar, R. (2011). *Research methodology: A step by step guide for beginners* (2nd ed.). London: Sage.
- LoBiondo-Wood, G., & Haber, J. (2010). *Nursing research methods, critical appraisal and utilization* (7th ed.). St. Louis: Mosby.

Moule, P., & Goodman, M. (2009). *Nursing research: An introduction*. London: Sage.

Oakley, A. (2000). *Experiments in knowing: Gender and method in the social sciences*. Cambridge UK: Polity Press.

Parahoo, K. (2006). *Nursing research: Principles, process and issues* (2nd ed.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Patton, M. (2002). *Qualitative research and evaluation methods* (3rd ed.). London: Sage.

Polit, D., & Beck, C. (2008). *Nursing research: Principles and methods* (8th ed.). Sydney: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Polit, D., & Beck, C. (2008). *Nursing research: Generating and assessing evidence for nursing practice* (8th ed.). Sydney: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Wetz, F.J., Charmaz, K., McMullen, L.M., Josselson, R., Anderson, R., & McSpadden, E. (2011). *Five ways of doing qualitative analysis*. New York: The Guilford Press.

PRE-READINGS

Links to articles will be made available via blackboard.

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

Links to recommended websites will be updated throughout the term and made available via blackboard.

TEXT BOOK PURCHASE

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Copies may also be obtained online from <http://www.fishpond.co.nz/> or <http://www.amazon.com/>

BLACKBOARD INFORMATION

Students enrolling for this course will need access to the Victoria University of Wellington flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet.

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online via the internet. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of timetable during the 1st School. Students will need to be able to access the Internet on a regular basis.

The following software, which is necessary for using material on Blackboard, is freely available to download from the internet if you don't already have it:

- Netscape Communicator v 4.78 or higher (v. 7.1 recommended) OR
- Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 5.2.x or higher
- MS Windows 2000 or XP/ MacOS 9 or Mac OS X.2 or higher

Other software: Adobe Acrobat Reader - free download from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>

Microsoft Office or Microsoft Viewers. The viewers can be downloaded free of charge from: <http://www.microsoft.com/office/000/viewers.asp>

Computer skills required:

- Internet browsing skills
- Basic word processing skills

How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to myVictoria.ac.nz
- Enter your account username which you can find in your *Confirmation of Study* sheet
- It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name
- Enter your password. If you have never used Victoria computer facilities your initial password is your student ID number
- Click on the Blackboard icon
- Alternatively, if you want to access Blackboard without going through the myVictoria portal, just log on at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>

Off Campus access

Blackboard is available from any location where you can access the Internet. This may be your home, work or an Internet café.

Problems with access? Contact ITS service desk **04 463 5050**

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vicliffe/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vicliffe/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER ONE

Assignment Name: **Search Strategy**

Due Date: 12 August 2013

Word limit: maximum 500 words + table or diagram

This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.

Using a health or practice issue of your choice, develop a research question and concordant search strategy to answer your question.

Undertake this search strategy and describe how you refined your search and what literature you located.

Provide an initial assessment of the success of your search.

Use a diagram or a table to describe the concepts incorporated in your search and your use of Boolean operators.

This assignment meets learning objective: 2

Please submit this assignment via Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER TWO

Assignment Name: **Design appraisal**

Due Date: 12 August 2013

Word limit: 2500 words

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade.

Choose a topic of interest to you and then suggest three separate research designs which could be used to investigate the topic.

Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the three research designs and explain why and how they were suitable for investigating the topic. You should include both quantitative and qualitative designs.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1, 2 & 3

Please submit this assignment via Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER THREE

Assignment Name: **Article critique**
Due Date: 21 October 2013
Word limit: 3000-4000 words

This assignment is worth 60% of your final grade.

You will be provided with a number of research articles addressing a specific health subject. Critically evaluate the articles. Discuss their relevance to your work area and how they advance your thinking on your practice.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1, 2 & 3

Please submit this assignment via Blackboard.